

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MADRID 06114 171557Z
ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 NRC-05 FEA-01 ERDA-05 AID-05
CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FPC-01 H-01
INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05
USIA-06 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-07 /107 W
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FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1400
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 6114

OECD FOR IEA AND NEA SECRETARIAT

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: TECH, PFOR, ENRG, MNUC, PARM
SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL NUCLEAR FUEL CYCLE EVALUATION (INFCE)

REF: STATE 184505

1. ECON COUNSELOR AND EMBOFF CALLED ON SR. JOSE MARIA VELO ANTELO AT FOREIGN MINISTRY DIRECTORATE FOR TECHNICAL COOPERATION TO DISCUSS INFCE PROPOSAL. VELO REITERATED SPAIN'S KEEN INTEREST IN INFCE AND LOOKS FORWARD TO PARTICIPATING IN THE OCTOBER CONFERENCE. HE WAS CONCERNED THAT THE INFCE CONFERENCE MIGHT CONFLICT WITH RENEGOTIATION OF THE BILATERAL NUCLEAR ACCORD SCHEDULED TO BEGIN NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 1 HE SAID LIMITED GOS NUCLEAR AFFAIRS STAFF COULD NOT HANDLE BOTH MATTERS AT THE SAME TIME AND THAT IN ANY CASE GOS WOULD WANT TO SEE OUTCOME OF INFCE MEETING BEFORE ACTING ON BILATERAL ACCORD.

2. VELO SAID FOREIGN MINISTRY WOULD PASS PROPOSAL ON TO JUNTA DE ENERGIA NUCLEAR FOR ITS TECHNICAL CONSIDERATION AND SUGGESTIONS. HE ASKED IF PROPOSAL REFLECTED IDEAS OF
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MADRID 06114 171557Z

LONDON SUPPLIERS GROUP. ECON COUNSELOR SAID IT INCLUDED COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS FROM SEVERAL SUPPLIER AND CUSTOMER COUNTRIES.

3. VELO TURNED CONVERSATION TO SITUATION OF SPANISH ELECTRIC POWER COMPANIES (PRIVATE FIRMS SUPPLY SOME 85 PERCENT OF THE COUNTRY'S ELECTRIC ENERGY). HE

SAID THEY ARE EXASPERATED WITH US MOVES TO RESRRICT EXPORT OF NUCLEAR MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT WHICH WOULD NOT ONLY CAUSE COSTLY DELAYS AND MAKE CORPORATE PLANNING IMPOSSIBLE, BUT ALSO STRENGTHEN OPPOSITION TO NUCLEAR POWER. OPPOSITION PARTIES IN THE NEW LEGILATURE ARE CALLING FOR NATIONALIZATION OF THE ELECTRIC POWER INDUSTRY. THERE IS INCREASING PUBLIC RESISTANCE TO NUCLEAR PROJETS. AND NOW US ACTIONS HAVE MADE IT A LESS CERTAIN SUPPLIER. THE TOTAL SITUATION IS A FORMIDIBLE ARGUMENT AGAINST ANY PRIVATE FIRM RISKING ITS FORTUNES IN BUILDING NULCEAR POWER CAPACITY. AT THE SAME TIME, THERE IS NO OTHER WAY SPAIN CAN EXCECT TO REDUCE ITS ENORMOUS IMPORTED FUEL BILL NOR ACHIEVE SIGNIFICANT ENERGY INDEPENDENCE IN A REASONABLE PERIOD OF TIME. THE COMPANIES FIND THEMSELEVES IN A "DAMNED IF YOU DO DAMNED IF YOU DON'T POSITION WITH LITTLE INFLUENCE OVER WHAT HAPPENS.

4. COMMENT: VELO'S DESCRIPTION OF THE PLIGHT OF PRIVATE ELECTRIC FIRMS IN SPAIN IS ACCURATE. THEY FEEL BUFFETED FROM ALL SIDES AND SEE RECENT US MOVES IN NUCLEAR POWER AS COMPOUNDING THEIR DILEMMA. THEY NEED TO KNOW NOW WHAT THE US PLANS TO DO, SPECIFICALLY IF WE PLAN TO REMAIN A RELIABLE SUPPLIER OF NUCLEAR MATERIALS. THIS WOULD BEST BE ACCOMPLISHED BY EARLY ESTABLISHMENT OF CLEAR GOALS FOR THE INFCE AND
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PAGE 03 MADRID 06114 171557Z

RAPID SETTLEMENT OF THE BILATERAL NUCLEAR ACCORD.STABLER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NUCLEAR FUELS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 17-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770297-0465
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770853/aaaabsvs.tel
Line Count: 95
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Litigation Codes:
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